



April News By Mrs. Whitacre

Spring fever has hit. We are all ready for the nice weather. Unfortunately, many days are still quite cool. Please check the forecast. We go outside unless it is raining. When students come in a short-sleeved tee, recess is uncomfortable at 40 degrees. In **science** we are working on our spring unit, *New Plants*. We have already planted Brassica, grass and alfalfa. We will soon add plants started from bulbs, roots and cuttings. Attached you will find a letter asking for any cuttings you can spare. You may know of other plants that grow well in addition to the ones listed. Please feel free to send anything you know of that will grow from a cutting.

Reading continues to fill most of the morning. Their fluency, comprehension and accuracy are all growing rapidly. Many students are continuing to read daily at home. That practice has made a huge difference. AR time continues to be a favorite time of the day as we read and test. If your child has any difficulty reading the small books that come home, encourage them to reread them or echo read with you. Discussing the story after reading will help with comprehension. The class has read and tested on 3021 books with an average score of 89% and an average book level of 2.2 for the year.

Math Our Muskie Math timed tests have been getting harder, but the scores have been improving. Learning how to take a timed test is a real challenge for some students. We practice and correct daily until Thursday. Please watch for the practice sheet to come home on Thursday. It is fine to go over and correct the Thursday assignment with your child.

We are working on our chapter on money. Our goals are to identify pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters. Students should also be able to tell the value of each coin and count coin groups. We are also solving problems with money, finding multiple ways to show a given amount and figuring small amounts of change. If your child gets an allowance or has a piggy bank those would be good opportunities to work with money at home.

Remember! No school April 22 and April 25